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JESSE  WHITE
SECRETARY OF STATE

PARKING PROGRAM FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES



The Parking Program for Persons with Disabilities is a vital program for many Illinois residents with disabilities. My office has made significant progress in reducing fraud and abuse of disability license plates and parking placards. As a result, our program has received praise from the disability community and law enforcement agencies across the nation.

In Illinois, the illegal use of a parking space reserved for persons with disabilities now carries a minimum \$250 fine. Unauthorized use of disability plates or a parking placard carries a minimum \$500 fine, driver's license suspension and/or revocation of the plates or placard.

As a user of this program, please ensure that your disability plates or parking placard is being used accordingly. Remember, disability plates and placards are not transferable. The authorized holder must be present and must enter or exit the vehicle at the time the parking privileges are being used.

For more information, please contact my office's Persons with Disabilities License Plates/Placard Unit.

Jesse White

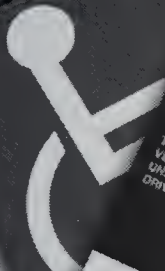
Jesse White
Illinois Secretary of State

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REMOVE BEFORE VEHICLE

TEMPORARY

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REMOVE BEFORE VEHICLE IS IN MOTION.
THIS PLACARD IS NOT TRANSFERABLE.
IT IS ILLEGAL TO COPY OR DUPLICATE THIS PLACARD.

THE AUTHORIZED HOLDER MUST BE PRESENT AND MUST ENTER OR EXIT THE VEHICLE AT THE TIME THE PARKING PRIVILEGES ARE BEING USED. UNAUTHORIZED USE MAY RESULT IN A \$500 FINE AND SUSPENSION OF DRIVER'S LICENSE AND/OR REVOCATION OF THE PLACARD.

PERMANENT

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REMOVE BEFORE VEHICLE IS IN MOTION.
IT IS ILLEGAL TO COPY OR DUPLICATE THIS PLACARD.

THIS PLACARD CANNOT BE USED FOR PERSONAL USE. AN INDIVIDUAL OR DESIGNEE FROM THE ASSIGNED ORGANIZATION MUST BE TRANSPORTING PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES WHEN THE PARKING PRIVILEGES ARE BEING USED. UNAUTHORIZED USE MAY RESULT IN A \$500 FINE AND SUSPENSION OF DRIVER'S LICENSE AND/OR REVOCATION OF THE PLACARD.

ORGANIZATION

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ORGANIZATION

EXPIRES THE LAST DAY OF:

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.
Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.



ILLINOIS
Jesse White
Secretary

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Program Eligibility

To qualify for disability license plates or a parking placard, an applicant must submit a Secretary of State Persons with Disabilities Certification form. The form must be completed by a licensed physician certifying that the applicant has one of the following six specific medical conditions that severely impairs their ability to walk: ("Cannot walk 200 feet without stopping to rest" is no longer a qualifying disability, unless it is related to one of these conditions.)

- Cannot walk without the assistance of another person, prosthetic device, wheelchair or other assistive device.
- Be restricted by lung disease to such a degree that forced (respiratory) expiratory volume (FEV) in 1 second, when measured by spirometry, is less than 1 liter.
- Must use portable oxygen.
- Have Class III or Class IV cardiac condition according to standards set by the American Heart Association.
- Be severely limited in the ability to walk due to an arthritic, neurological or orthopedic condition.
- Has permanently lost the use of or is missing a hand or arm.

Parking Privileges

- Vehicles properly displaying disability plates, a parking placard or Disabled Veteran plates may park in spaces reserved for persons with disabilities, and are exempt from meter fees or time limitations on parking, except at meters, signs or other markings with time limitations of 30 minutes or less.
- Disability plates and parking placards are not transferable. The authorized holder must be present and must enter or exit the vehicle at the time the parking privileges are being used.
- Disability plates and parking placards do not permit vehicles to park in areas where parking is prohibit-

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ed or restricted. Vehicles also are prohibited from parking in any manner that creates a traffic hazard.

Disability License Plates

Persons with permanent disabilities may obtain disability plates for vehicles titled in their name. An immediate family member residing in the same household may obtain one set of plates if the qualifying person with disabilities does not own a vehicle and must rely on someone else for transportation.

Corporations, school districts, limited liability companies, nursing homes, convalescent homes and special education cooperatives transporting eligible persons may obtain disability plates as well.

Parking Placards

There are three different types of placards available from the Secretary of State:

- **Permanent placards** are issued to persons with a permanent disability and expire on the last day of the holder's birth month in 2010.
- **Temporary placards** are issued to persons with a temporary disability and are valid for the length of time indicated by the certifying physician, not to exceed six months if issued by the Secretary of State and 90 days if issued by a local municipality.
- **Organization placards** are issued to organizations that transport persons with disabilities free of charge and expire on April 30, 2010.

Placards are only valid until the expiration date indicated on the placard. To receive a new placard, you must submit a new application with a physician's certification verifying disability.

Placards are not transferable and it is illegal to copy or duplicate a placard for any reason.

If a placard is no longer needed or the authorized holder dies, please contact the Persons with Disabilities License Plates/Placard Unit at 217-782-2709.

Proper Display of Placards

Because a parking placard is issued to the person with the disability and not to a vehicle, it may be used in any vehicle in which the authorized holder is driving or is a passenger. When parked in a space reserved for persons with disabilities, the placard must be properly displayed in one of the following locations so it is clearly visible to law enforcement:

- Hanging from the rearview mirror, or
- Placed on the dashboard

Failure to properly display a parking placard may result in a fine.

Remember to remove the placard before the vehicle is in motion to prevent damage or excessive exposure to sun. Also, the placard can obstruct the driver's view if left hanging from the mirror.

Penalties for Misuse

It is illegal to:

- Park in a space reserved for persons with disabilities without disability plates or a parking placard. Violators may be issued a minimum \$250 fine; local municipalities can increase fines up to \$350.
- Park in an access aisle — the vertical lines adjacent to the parking space for persons with disabilities. The access aisle reserves room for persons to safely enter and exit their vehicle. You can be fined a minimum of \$250 for parking in the access aisle even if your vehicle is displaying a placard or disability plates.
- Use disability plates or a parking placard without the authorized holder present. Violators face the following penalties: first offense — minimum \$500 fine and 30-day driver's license suspension; second offense — minimum \$750 fine and 6-month driver's license suspension; third offense — minimum \$1,000 fine and 1-year driver's license suspension.



- Manufacture, copy or alter disability plates or placards; obtain disability plates or placards based on fictitious information; use a stolen placard; or knowingly transfer disability plates or placards to others so they may use privileges granted to authorized holders. A violation is a Class A misdemeanor and carries a fine of up to \$2,500 and a 1-year driver's license suspension.

Police may confiscate a placard if they believe it is being used illegally. Police officers have clear authority to enforce parking laws on private property, such as at a mall or grocery store.

Self-Serve Gas Stations

Gasoline and service stations in Illinois must comply with provisions of the Americans With Disabilities Act by:

- Dispensing fuel for the driver of a vehicle displaying disability plates or a parking placard upon request of the person with the disability;
- Posting signs informing persons with disabilities that they may obtain refueling assistance by either honking the horn or otherwise signaling an employee; and
- Providing refueling assistance at no additional charge beyond the cost of gas.

For a list of gas stations, visit www.dhs.state.il.us (click Initiatives then Refueling Assistance for Persons with Disabilities).

Application

- Applications for disability plates or parking placards are available at your local Driver Services facility, at www.cyberdriveillinois.com, or by contacting the Persons with Disabilities License Plates/Placard Unit at the address below.
- A licensed physician must certify on the application that you have one of the six specific qualifying disabilities. You also must include your date of birth, gender and driver's license or state ID card number.
- If applying for disability plates, a copy of the registration card or title is required if the vehicle is registered in the applicant's name. If the vehicle is not registered in the applicant's name, a copy of the Certificate of Title or Manufacturer's Certificate of Origin is required.
- If current plates expire within 90 days, submit: Certification for Persons with Disabilities Plates or Placard; Application for Reclass to Disability Plates; and a check or money order payable to Secretary of State for \$107 (\$78 renewal fee, \$29 replacement fee).
- If current plates do not expire within 90 days, submit: Certification for Persons with Disabilities Plates or Placard and \$29 replacement fee.
- Vanity and personalized disability plates are available. For more information, visit Pick-a-Plate at www.cyberdriveillinois.com.

Submit applications to:

**Secretary of State Jesse White
Persons with Disabilities
License Plates/Placard Unit
501 S. Second St., Rm. 541
Springfield, IL 62756
217-782-2285 • 800-252-2904 (V)
800-261-5280 (TTY)**

WWW.CYBERDRIVEILLINOIS.COM
